



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND

Office of Public Affairs, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois 62225-5357

DR. ROBERT B. SLIGH

Dr. Robert B. Sligh is the Director, Research Center, and Command Historian, United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), Scott Air Force Base, IL. He is responsible for developing, formulating and managing the command history program and for providing counsel to the commander of USTRANSCOM on historical matters. The Research Center prepares oral and narrative histories, chronologies, monographs, special studies, and articles to document significant activities for future reference; 1; performs research and analysis for use in planning, policy formation, decision making, and professional development; and responds to requests for historical information from the USTRANSCOM commander and staff, the Transportation Component Commands, the Joint Staff, other governmental agencies, and the public. The Research Center also acquires and displays art and artifacts depicting air, land, and sea transportation and distribution operations.



Dr. Sligh entered federal civil service in 1986 as its second Palace Acquire Intern. After completing his internship at the USAF Historical Research Agency, Dr. Sligh served at five numbered air forces from 1988 to 2008 as well as Headquarters Air Education and Training Command. He has also served as a joint historian during Operation SHINING HOPE (Germany/Albania, 1999), Operation ATLAS RESPONSE (Mozambique, 2000), MEDFLAG Exercise BRILLIANT LION '01 (Mozambique, 2001) and JTF-SUPPORT FORCES ANTARCTICA (December 2005-July 2009). During Operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE (Thailand, 2005) he served as the AFFOR-Forward/374th Air Expeditionary Wing historian, and covered CSF UNIFIED ASSISTANCE until the JTF historian arrived late in the operation. In May 2008, he deployed to Operation CARING RESPONSE (Burma relief operations) as the COMAFFOR historian. Dr. Sligh returned to Headquarters Fifth Air Force, Yokota AF, Japan, in August 2009. Following the devastating Great North Japan Earthquake of 11 March 2011, Dr. Sligh became the *de facto* Operation TOMODACHI historian. He is the author of numerous official publications and histories.

EDUCATION:

1980 Bachelor of Arts degree in History, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA
1982 Master of Arts degree in History, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA
1990 Doctor of Philosophy in History, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. January 1986 – June 1987, Intern, Air Force History Program, USAF Historical Research Agency, Maxwell AFB, AL.
2. June 1987 – December 1987, Intern, Air Force History Program, Headquarters Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL.
3. December 1987 – December 1989, Deputy Historian, Headquarters Eighth Air Force (SAC), Barksdale AFB, LA.

4. January 1990 – August 1994, Historian, Headquarters Twelfth Air Force (TAC/ACC), Bergstrom AFB, TX, and Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ.
5. September 1994 – September 2001, Historian, Headquarters Third Air Force (USAFE), RAF Mildenhall, UK.
6. April – May 1999, Historian, Headquarters Joint Task Force SHINING HOPE, Warrior Preparation Center, Einsiedlerhof, Germany, and Tiranë-Rinas Airport, Tiranë, Albania.
7. February – March 2000, Historian, Headquarters Joint Task Force ATLAS RESPONSE, AFB Hoedspruit, South Africa.
8. August 2001, Historian, Headquarters Exercise BRILLIANT LION '01, Maputo, Mozambique.
9. September 2001 – March 2003, Staff Historian, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, TX.
10. March 2003 – December 2005, Chief historian, 374th Airlift Wing & Headquarters Fifth Air Force (PACAF), Yokota AB, Japan.
11. January 2005, Chief Historian, AFFOR-Forward/374th Air Expeditionary Wing, Operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE, Utapao, Thailand.
12. December 2005 – October 2006, Historian, General George C. Kenney Headquarters (Provisional) (PACAF), Hickam AFB, HI.
13. October 2006 – July 2009, Historian, Headquarters Thirteenth Air Force (PACAF), Hickam AFB, HI.
14. December 2005 – July 2009, Historian, Joint Task Force Support Forces Antarctica, Hickam AFB, HI.
15. May – June 2008, COMAFFOR Historian, Operation CARING RESPONSE, Utapao Royal Thai Naval Base, Thailand.
16. August 2009 – 28 May 2016, Historian, Headquarters Fifth Air Force, Yokota AB, Japan.
17. March – June 2011, Historian, Operation TOMODACHI, Yokota AB, Japan.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

United States Air Forces Europe Excellence in History Award (NAF level), 1996
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award, 20 August 1999, JTF-SHINING HOPE
 Exemplary Civilian Service Medal, 24 October 2000, JTF-SHINING HOPE
 Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, 2002
 Air Education and Training Command Excellence in Historical Publications Award, 2004
 Air Force Excellence in Historical Publications Award, 2004
 Humanitarian Medal, 2005
 Pacific Air Forces Robert F. Futrell History Publications Award, 2006 (co-author)
 Air Force Excellence in Historical Publications Award, 2006 (co-author)
 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Gen. George C. Kenney Headquarters, 1 Jun 05 to 6 Oct 06
 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Headquarters Thirteenth Air Force, 6 Oct 06 to 31 Oct 07
 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Headquarters Fifth Air Force, 2 Nov 09 to 1 Nov 11; 2 Nov 11 – 1 Nov 13
 PACAF Lessons Learned Award for Operation Tomodachi, 2012
 Air Force level General George Kenney Lessons Learned Award
 Exemplary Civilian Service Medal, Distinguished Performance, 31 July 2009 to 28 May 2016

Current as of September 2016